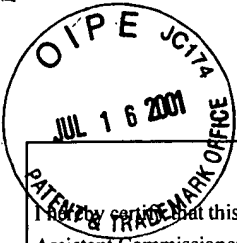


L. Parks  
7-18-01  
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PATENT  
Docket No. 290252010402

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on July 11, 2001.

Kerry Keehan

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Ivan SEPETKA and U. Hiram CHEE

Serial No.: 09/730,215

Filing Date: December 5, 2000

For: IMPLANT DELIVERY ASSEMBLY  
WITH EXPANDABLE  
COUPLING/DECOUPLING  
MECHANISM

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: 3761

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JUL 18 2001  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents numbered 49 and 50 are submitted herewith. However, documents numbered 1-48 and 51-57 were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement and/or Office Action, directed to the related applications Serial Number 08/363,264, filed December 22, 1994 now issued US Patent No. 5,814,062 and Serial Number 09/034,606, filed March 3, 1998 now

issued US Patent No. 6,238,415, and, accordingly, copies are not included herewith. This protocol conforms with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) and M.P.E.P. 609(A)(2). The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
  - ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of \* is enclosed.
  - ☐ A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below; accordingly; no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, a Petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement, an authorization to charge our deposit account, and a Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) are provided herein.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is to the best of my knowledge and is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 290252010402. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: July 11, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Richard R. Batt  
Registration No. 43,485

Morrison & Foerster LLP  
755 Page Mill Road  
Palo Alto, California 94304-1018  
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Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)  
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# TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	09/730,215
Filing Date	December 5, 2000
First Named Inventor	Ivan SEPETKA
Group Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket No.	290252010402

Total Number Of Pages In This Submission

10 (w/2  
references)

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers<br>(for an Application)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached   | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers  | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group<br>(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final  | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition  | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declarations                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation<br>Change of Correspondence Address | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):<br>Form PTO-1449 (w/copy) 6 pages; - Two Cited References; Return Receipt Postcard. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer   |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement - 3 pages  | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)                 | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/<br>Incomplete Application   |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts<br>under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 |  |   |

Remarks

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT

Firm or Individual Name	Morrison & Foerster, LLP, 755 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, CA 94304-1018
Signature	
Date	July 10, 2001

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Kerry Keenan

Burden Hours Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

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